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1. History

a. The Chiu Ta Salt Company was founded by FAN Hsu-tung 范旭东 in 1914. The capital of \$2,500,000 was supplied by a group of shareholders, but none of it was supplied by the government.

b. The factory was only slightly damaged by the Japanese during their occupation.

c. On 15 November 1945 the factory was repossessed by the owners, and three months later it was again in operation.

2. Organization

a. Shareholders direct the policies of the company through PENG Chiu-sheng 彭九生 who is the manager of the General Office. There are two departments in the General Office, one of which controls the areas which supply the raw salt, and the other is in charge of the purifying process.

3. Labor Situation

a. At present there are 233 laborers and twenty-eight administrative workers employed by the Chiu Ta Company. The laborers' wage is computed daily from the current price of corn flour. Their daily wage is the value of ten to fifteen catties of this flour, depending on the rating of the laborer. This payment is made twice a month. The average monthly wage of the administrative workers is about CN\$ 300,000. The company also supplies houses, water, coal, light, hospitalization, school, and a club for the employees.

b. The majority of the personnel has been employed by the company for many years, and there is no danger of labor troubles. There is a laborers' union called the Chiu Ta Salt Company's Industrial Union, which is under the supervision of the Kuomintang.

4. Production

The main products of this factory are salt and "MgCO₂" (presumably should be magnesium carbonate MgCO₃). By-products are Boric (Borax?? Boric Acid??), Iodine, and tooth powder. Because of poor market prices the factory stopped making by-products some time ago.

b. Before the war the factory produced about 300 tons of purified salt daily. At present the factory produces about 100 tons of crystal salt, about fifty

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tons of purified powdered salt, and from five to six tons of " $MgCO_2$ ". The present lack of transportation to markets prohibits any increase in production. There are 2000 tons of purified salt in storage.

c. Not much machinery is necessary in the manufacture of salt. A mechanical washer which is used to wash the raw salt is the only mechanical machinery at the factory.

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d. Coal and raw salt are the only raw materials used by the factory. The company owns five salt pans (about 3600 mou) in the Tangku area; these supply 10,000 tons of raw salt per year. The coal is supplied by mines at Tangshan.

e. The company has two wells supplying fresh water, one for themselves and one for the citizens of Tangku. One more well was to have been dug in October.

f. The company does not have its own light and power plant and has to depend on the Hopei Electric Company for this service.

g. There is a very high tax rate on salt. The company must pay 4500 CNC per tan (1/20 ton)/?/. /1/15 ton?/

h. Because of the high tax rate there is a great deal of salt smuggling being carried on by private salt pans.

5. Chiu Ta factory was built by the same shareholders who own the Yung Li Chemical Industry Company. Chiu Ta factory is one of the ten factories which these shareholders hope to enlarge to increase the output. The plan for expanding the operation of these factories has already been presented to the executive Yuan.

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